



FLORIDA COUNCIL OF  
BROMELIAD SOCIETIES

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*Neoregelia Rosy Morn*



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Cover Photograph: *Neoregelia* Rosy Morn by Carol Wolfe

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## *I Love Bromeliads...By Carol Wolfe, Editor*

What an exciting spring in the "Bromeliad World" with great weather, shows, auctions, picnics, meetings, sales, and an Extravaganza right around the corner. We invite you to come to Tampa for the Extravaganza. We have a lot of members of the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay working hard to provide you with a great event. We have secured excellent room rates at the Clarion Hotel at \$75 for single/double. If you prefer or need more than the standard room, the Clarion has just opened a new wing of the hotel with one and two bedroom suites complete with kitchenette, which includes a microwave and a refrigerator. The suite open into a courtyard with a Japanese Garden. The Clarion includes a hot breakfast with your room rate and your conference registration includes a Friday night Bar-B-Q buffet and your Banquet meal on Saturday night. For lunch, in addition to the restaurants on the grounds, including a Friday's, there are many good restaurants just across the street from the hotel.

In addition to two buffet meals with three entrees on each, your conference registration includes entrance to the Speakers on Saturday. Pam Koide Hyatt, a world expert on Tillandsias, will be our keynote speaker. Dr. Lawrence Giroux, Bruce Holst, and Kenneth Stokes will complete our speaker list. You will find more detailed information in the Newsletter on each of these fine speakers.

Now for the best part, you will have the finest collection of bromeliads to be assembled in one spot anytime this year! Our vendors will be there with their best and most beautiful bromeliads and you will have an opportunity to add to your collection or purchase a long desired bromeliad. The evening banquet will be followed by the rare plant auction and you will have an opportunity to bid on these rare and unusual bromeliads. There will be raffles during the day, seminars, and opportunities to visit with bromeliad folks. So if you haven't registered, please contact Pam Slagg, Registrar, 4315 W San Pedro St., Tampa, FL 33629 by telephone (813) 832-9481 or email [pamslagg@hotmail.com](mailto:pamslagg@hotmail.com) and Pam will get you registered right away! If you need to register as a vendor, contact Julie Lessard, Sales Chair at 813-662-7972 or email [Taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:Taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com). Individuals may sell under membership sales but you will still need a sales number from Julie and be registered for the conference. You could pay for your trip by selling some of your favorite bromeliads at the Extravaganza.

Have you noticed the number of hits on the FCBS website? We are now at 443,989 hits! Thank you Michael and Karen Andreas for all your hard work! Since Michael added PayPal to the website, it has been so convenient to click on Donate and up pops the screen to complete your purchase. Then you will receive a receipt for your donation for tax purposes. I have been using the donate button for several months to "Help Save Florida's Native Bromeliads" and I love using it. PayPal is a very secure account and you can use it on internet purchases in lieu of giving your credit card information to companies you don't know. Although a donation may be a small amount if contributed monthly, by the end of the year, it will aid in helping Dr. Teresa Cooper in fighting the weevil. I would like to challenge each of you to open a PayPal account and donate at least \$5.00 this month. We are over 600 members strong and if my math is correct that would be a windfall for the fund of \$3,000 in May. Are you up to the challenge? Will you contribute to save our native bromeliad? I've made my donation and I hope you will too.

The Bromeliad Society of South Florida in Miami put on a beautiful bromeliad show at Fairchild Gardens. You will find many of the pictures and I hope you will enjoy them. I wish we could print all of them..but you have to stop somewhere! Congratulations to all the BSSF members on a beautiful Bromeliad Show!

It is with heavy hearts that we bid farewell to Dean Fairchild of Orlando who lost his battle with cancer. He appeared to be doing well last year. He will be missed by all of us. Goodbye dear friend.

Thank you to our loyal FCBS members who participated with articles for this issue: Teresa Cooper's "Mexican Bromeliad Weevil Report", Karen Andreas for her articles "Armchair Journeys, Bromeliad Habitats on fcbs.org" and "*Pitcairnia*: A Shady Bromeliad", Jay Thurrott article and pictures, "Searching for Florida's Wild Bromeliads", Tom Wolfe for "*Tillandsia utriculata*" and "The Fire Invasion of 1930". Thanks to all these wonderful contributors for making this an interesting newsletter for our readers.

We were preparing to go to the Palm Beach Bromeliad Society meeting when Tom and I came across this beautiful *Neoregelia* Rosy Morn (cover photo) in the greenhouse. Wanting to know more



about this beauty, I went to *The Bromeliad Cultivar Registry* which stated: cv of unknown parentage—Derek Butcher says, “Grown from imported seed by Amazon Nursery, NSW, as *Neoregelia* ‘Morrisoniana’ - wrong name!—could be species of *cruenta* type—See *Bromeletter*, July & Nov. 1993”. “-



large *cruenta* type broad leafed greenish yellow rosette w/red spotting and blushing—tips blunt and apiculate (short broad tips) and hot pink.

Next I turned to my in-house bromeliad expert, Tom Wolfe, who knew some history of this plant. He acquired a plant from Mulford Foster in the late 1960’s named *Neoregelia* Morrisoniana (*Neoregelia* Carolinae x *N. farinosa*). This plant measured 20 to 24 inches across at maturity. The leaves were broad and faded pink with many red spots, top and bottom. A few years later, Wally Berg of Sarasota had a plant

that he said came from Australia named *Neoregelia* Morrisoniana which had no resemblance to his plant. This plant was either misnamed and/or incorrectly registered. It now appears in the BSI cultivar list as “Rosy Morn’ with unknown parentage.

That’s it...unknown parentage...no other information on this beautiful pink of perfection with brilliant reflective outer leaves measuring three feet wide, sitting right in front of us, an “Orphan”. Oh no! As I began searching for further identification of its parents, its identity became more allusive. I went on the internet, but I felt that none of the pictures were equal to the beauty of the plant sitting in front of us. So I sought out the Aussies information in the following articles in the Australia Newsletter:

Discussions dated in 1993 in the *Bromeletters*: **Neoregelia ‘Rosy Morn’ From Bromeletter (4) 1993 by Butcher** *Neoregelia* X Morrisoniana is a hybrid that Mulford Foster did in 1955 between *N. farinosa* and *N. carolinae*. However, there is a plant being grown in Australia, particularly in the Gosford area and all points north, under this name which bears no relationship to photographs of *N. X Morrisoniana*. Apparently it came into being via a seed raising project by Amazon Nursery. It is a large plant which remains totally red in good light and makes an excellent landscape subject. If the seed was from *N. X Morrisoniana*, then we are talking about an F2 generation, and the plant needs a different name. It is such a good plant and common that it deserves a name of its own, and what better than *N. ‘Rosy Morn’*?

**From Bromeletter (5) 1993 by M McNamara** *Neoregelia* X Morrisoniana? We on the Central Coast all know this plant Derek commented on. I viewed *N. ‘Morrisoniana’* at a grower’s home in Florida, while on a Conference garden tour in 1988. I came to the quick conclusion that the Central Coast’s plant, named as such, was wrong. This central Coast Neo has been successful in winning a Champion or Grand ribbon in the Royal Easter Show Bromeliad section and rightfully so. The only Neo hybrid which is perhaps a little better than it is one by Bud Dole, Texas (where else?). His plant is ‘Passionate’ x ‘Eleganza Aristocrat’. It has the same pretty pink/red glow and is superb!

**From Bromeletter (6). 1993 by Butcher** *Neoregelia* ‘Rosy Morn’. I must have spoken to the wrong people in Brisbane and all places South regarding this plant. It is great getting more information. Bill Morris and Peter Franklin suggested strong links with *N. cruenta* and when Elton Leme showed slides of the many sorts of *N. cruenta* including the red form, I shared these views too. Clearly the seed was sent to the Amazon Boys under the incorrect name of *N. ‘Morrisoniana’* and there does appear to be some variation in the progeny as could be expected.

**Some extra notes, 29/03/10** Ian et al. *N. morrisoniana* was named by Foster in 1955 but even then the convention was for anglicised names for man made hybrids but Foster did his own thing! According to records he only released two cultivars which were selected from this *morrisoniana* grex. These were called *Neo. ‘Margaret’* and *Neo. ‘George’* NOBODY knows if these cultivars survived but the name *morrisoniana* persists and just because it is latinised, people consider it a species. This is why the name still occurs on the BSI seedlists despite me jumping up and down! In the last 55 years we have seen *morrisoniana* seedlings called *morrisoniana* and their seedlings called *morrisoniana* ad nauseum. So what is on offer these days as *morrisoniana* on the BSI seedlists is anyones guess! UD Updated 22/11/11 (Reference: **Brom 1993 4:12, 5, 6, Butcher 1995**)

In conclusion, Orphan *Neoregelia* Rosy Morn has a new home with owner, Tom Ramiccio, President of the Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches. Rosy resides very near President Trump’s Florida residence, Mar-a-Largo in Palm Beach, with her new parents. Perhaps upon adoption, Tom Ramiccio will give “Rosy” a new name and solve the “taxonomic dilemma” that stretches from Florida to Australia.



## HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU ARE A MASTER GARDENER?

- There is a decorative compost container on your kitchen counter.
- Your recycle container is at the curb twice a week.
- You leave the breakfast dishes in the sink so you can get outside quicker.
- You prefer gardening to watching television.
- You plan vacation trips to arboretums and public parks.
- Dirt under your fingernails and calloused palms are matters of pride.
- You order ladybugs from the internet.
- You would rather go to a nursery to shop than a clothing store.

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## TWELVE BROMELIAD MATTERS TO PONDER

1. A bromeliad expert is one that has killed more plants than you will ever own.
2. The most important person in your society is the Refreshment Chair.
3. The guy carrying out the trash after the meeting is the President.
4. You've heard the old adage that only 20 percent of the people in a club help with the work so why is it that everyone gets 24 hours a day?
5. The more bromeliads you buy, the more you need.
6. The flowers were beautiful when you left home for the show. By the time you arrived, the Florida sun dried them to a crisp.
7. After you spent forty years carefully labeling bromeliads and leaning how to pronounce the names, some idiot changes them.
8. The longer you grow bromeliads, the less you know about them.
9. The more raffle tickets you buy, the less bromeliads you win.
10. Bromeliads grow over and under the benches. It doesn't matter what size greenhouse you have, it is never big enough; but....there is always room for one more.
11. You put a high price on your favorite bromeliad, hoping that no one will buy it. It sells.
12. The greater the bromeliad passion, the flatter the wallet!

Anonymous (to protect the innocence/guilty)

**In Memoriam: Dean Fairchild - 1940-2017**

**BSSF 2017 Show Program:** Dean Fairchild passed away surrounded by family on March 27, 2017. Dean served 25 years in the Air Force and was a decorated Senior Master Sergeant. After retirement, Dean spent many decades active in the growth, breeding and the advancement of bromeliad knowledge. He held Chairs at both the Bromeliad Society of South Florida and the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida shows on many occasions. He has judged Bromeliads all over the US. As a computer program author, he created the first intuitive Bromeliad Show Program for use with Classification and Entries which has been used for many years by several societies. Dean had a great love of art and had amassed a fantastic collection of botanical artwork. Dean's unique brand of humor, his strong opinions about everything and his devotion to whatever captured his attention at the time will be dearly missed.



Dean Fairchild and Eretta Morris with her winning Christmas centerpiece. Photo: Jay Thurrott

**In Memoriam:** The bromeliad world has lost another great grower, hybridizer and exhibitor of the plants we all love and enjoy. Dean was a good friend and fellow airman. We became Bromeliad Judges at the same time and over the years judged many shows together. He was knowledgeable, humorous, and helpful. He was also on of the most hospitable persons I have ever met. He will surely be missed. Tom Wolfe

**In Memoriam:** We were so saddened to hear the news of Dean's passing. Dean Fairchild had visited FECBS many times to share his years of accumulated knowledge with our club members. He even volunteered one year to serve as a judge in our annual Christmas centerpiece contest and, of course, to pose for pictures with the winner.

And I guess it's that Christmas connection that I think of most when I think of Dean. The fabulous Christmas tree that always took center stage in his living room: how did he ever get that into the house?...and how were he and Craig able to reach the top of that tree with their incredible decorations? Each year we tried, but photos simply couldn't capture the feeling that we had when we viewed that tree. It took your breath away and was a bit like standing at the rim of the Grand Canyon and looking out over the vista – pictures only show a portion of the true beauty, they simply can't convey the total feeling you get from viewing it in person. That was also a bit like Dean – photos were not enough to capture the sum total of what he was – you had to experience his warmth and fellowship in person to truly appreciate him. By Jay Thurrott



Photo: Jay Thurrott

**In Memoriam:** The world of bromeliads has lost a great friend and supporter. Dean Fairchild was definitely a unique individual. His knowledge was seemingly endless and never wrong (LOL). His personality was, at times, gruff and difficult, but he had a big heart and was very generous.

My son, Michael, and I used to work for him, repotting plants and doing many greenhouse tasks. You never knew when you would come face to face with an escaped iguana or fire ants. We both learned much from our experience.

Dean was coding and writing computer programs back when many of us were playing games on our Atari's and Apple 2's. He introduced me to PCs. I worked with him while he was working out the bugs on his program to enter plants in a show. Unfortunately, that usually came on entry day for the Miami show. At times it was frustrating work. He always seemed to wait until the last minute to work on the program. My son, David, said that Dean was the first person he saw coding. Both my boys work in the computer industry today. I'd like to think that Dean had a role in this.

I'll always remember his never-ending coffee cup, his flip-flops, his tireless work ethic, his friendship, his generosity, his sense of humor, and his never-ending knowledge of bromeliads (especially of neos, never Cryptanthus). We all have lost a good friend. Virginia Schrenker

*Quote from CS Lewis, The Last Battle: "I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now...Come further up, come further in!"*



# Searching for Florida's Wild Bromeliads

## By Jay Thurrott

I am constantly reminded of how fortunate we are to live in a state where it's possible to find 16 species of native bromeliads (including 2 natural hybrids) in their original (or close to it) habitat! In my own hometown of Port Orange we commonly see 6 different *Tillandsia* species, but it's just a little too cool in the winter in this area for any of the other varieties. That's one of the reasons why we always look forward to visiting our fellow bromeliad enthusiasts in the more southerly portions of the state – it's an opportunity for us to search for other varieties of native Florida bromeliads that we seldom see.

Calandra and I recently had an opportunity to visit *the Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock Botanical State Park*. That name is a bit of a mouthful, but we learned that it honors a local environmental activist who helped save the nearly 2400 acres of native tropical hardwood hammocks in Key Largo from becoming just another huge hotel and condominium complex in the 1980s. This is one of those parks that's truly 'not for everyone'. There are no rides for the kiddies, no snack bars, and no gift shop. The park is basically 2 well-marked trails (a shorter trail and a longer one for the more adventurous) winding through the wilds of Key Largo. On-line reviews are hilarious to read as unsuspecting tourists describe fleeing the park in panic while pursued by clouds of blood-thirsty mosquitoes or warning not to walk on the trail in a rainstorm since some of the trees may drip poisonous sap!

Despite these well-intentioned warnings, Calandra and I decided to brave the mosquitoes (no worse than any other wooded area in Florida, by the way) and the poisonous trees (well identified by markers at the beginning of the trail) and found the park to be just charming with colorful birds and the beautiful Julia butterfly out, about, and willing to pose for pictures. We were even more pleased and surprised to find examples of *Tillandsia paucifolia* and *Tillandsia flexuosa* well established in a tidal mangrove community.

Florida's dwindling populations of native bromeliads can still be observed in the wild. There is no doubt that they are not out there in the numbers that once existed before large-scale development forever changed the landscape and before the Mexican bromeliad weevil began working its way through the state, but if you are willing to wander a bit through the remaining undeveloped areas and tolerate the mosquitoes that you are sure to encounter, you can still be rewarded by the grand sight of Florida's native bromeliad species – growing as nature intended.

Photos by Jay Thurrott



*Tillandsia paucifolia*



*Tillandsia paucifolia* distributing its seeds.



Julia butterfly rests on some vegetation



*Tillandsia flexuosa*





## THE FIRE ANT INVASION OF 1930

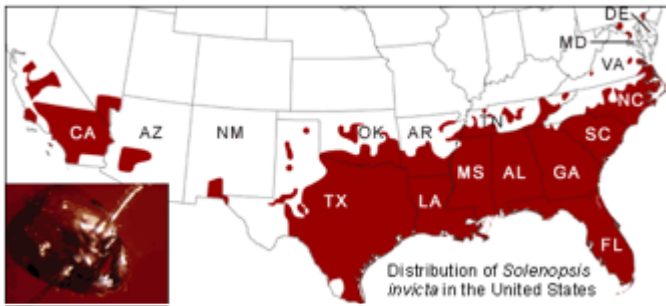
By Tom Wolfe



Fire Ants (*Solenopsis invicta*) invasion in the 1930's was a small invasion from Argentina. Over the next twenty years, it created havoc in the south with dangerous stings to men, women, and children, building large nests, disrupting farm lands, pasture lands, farmers and gardeners. Without a natural predator, the fire ants spread through the south like wildfire.

The queen fire ants can work as a single or multiple-queen (3 or 4 queens) to build colonies. Today, multiple-queen colonies dominate Texas. Although single and multiple queen colonies thrive in Argentina, they didn't take over as they have in Texas.

In the 1960's the US government waged a war on fire ants by using World War II bombers to dump ant poison on colonies. It killed all the native species of ants as well as fire ants, who were well adapted to recovering from catastrophes in South America in flood prone area. Some scientist think we may have provided them an opportunity to come back with a vengeance, without competition.



Distribution of fire ants in the United States



A colony of fire ants survives flood conditions by joining together to form a floating mat.

By studying the evolution of fire ants in their native South America and after their invasion of the U.S., scientists have gained an understanding of the evolutionary, genetic, and ecological reasons that colonies spread—an understanding that may help us manage this pest, as well as future invaders.

Some growers wage their war against the fire ants with club soda. If you're looking for an environmentally friendly cure for fire ants, you may wish to try this: Simply pour two cups of club soda (carbonated water) directly in the center of a fire ant mound. The carbon dioxide in the water is heavier than air and displaces the oxygen which suffocates the queen and the other ants. The whole colony will be dead within about two days. Here's the good side: club soda leaves no poisonous residue, doesn't contaminate the ground water, and doesn't indiscriminately kill other insets. Moreover, it isn't harmful to your pets and soaks in ground. Each mound must be treated individually.

I purchase a chemical called Bifenthrin which is about \$75 per gallon and contains 7.9% Bifenthrin and it works really well on our property. Bifenthrin is the active ingredient found in both the Talstar brand name and generic bifenthrin pesticides. Both the Talstar brand and generic bifenthrin products like Bifen-IT have the same label and the same amount of active ingredient 7.9%. Home Depot has a product called Ortho Bug-B-Gon with 3/10 percent of Bifenthrin. It can be ordered online from Amazon or other internet sites, or purchased at builder/home supply companies. Licensed pesticide companies can purchase a stronger mix if you want to call your professional pest control company, but if you plan to do it yourself as always be very, very careful when spraying any pesticide. Pesticides are poisonous and must be used with caution. Avoid splashing, spilling, leaks, and spraying when windy to avoid contamination of skin and clothing.

References: Fire Ants Invade and Evolve: Author Anna Thanukos; Editing: Judy Scochmoor and Al Janulaw; Web production and graphics: Dave Smith; [http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/0\\_0\\_0/fireants\\_01](http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/0_0_0/fireants_01)



**Mexican Bromeliad Weevil Report**  
**January - April 2017**  
**Teresa Marie Cooper**  
**Save Florida's Bromeliads Conservation Project**  
**Newberry, Florida**

In last month's Weevil Report, I wrote that the large, cedar cage, built to protect large *Tillandsia utriculata* plants from the Mexican bromeliad weevil, *Metamasius callizona*, had been completed and was waiting to be transported to the T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve. In early January, Debbie Blanco, Land Manager of the Carlton Reserve, transported the cage from Titusville to Venice, Florida. The cage is now set up and is filled with large *T. utriculata*. This cage was built by Noah Hosburgh and



**Figure 1. Garden 10 at the T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve.**

was funded by the Al Muzzell Weevil Fund, which is managed by the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies.

On 17 and 18 January 2017, I made a trip to the Carlton Reserve, Lemon Bay Park, and South Venice Lemon Bay Preserve, to meet and catch up with the land managers and volunteers working with the Save Florida's Bromeliads Conservation Project, as well as to make winter counts of the Gardens, Cages, Recruitment Sites, and wild *T. utriculata* populations. Gardens are locations on the natural areas where young *T. utriculata* plants are grown. There is one Garden at the Carlton Reserve (Figure 1) and 2 Gardens at Lemon Bay Park (Figure 2). When the plants become big enough to be attacked by the weevil, they are moved into the cages, where they are protected from the weevil. Carlton Reserve now has 3 cages, 2 cedar and 1 plastic. Two of these cages were built and filled with large *T. utriculata* plants in spring 2016. This year, many of these plants were returned to the forests in the Carlton Reserve, where

they released their seeds and/or their seeds were harvested and spread on tree trunks (Figure 3). We checked on seeds that were spread last year, both at the Carlton Reserve and at South Venice Lemon Bay Preserve. The plants were very small, 1 - 2 mm in length, but healthy and alive. Counts of wild *T. utriculata* populations were made at the Carlton Reserve, Lemon Bay Park, and South Venice Lemon Bay Preserve. On 28 March 2017, I made a trip to the Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park and Mike Owen and I counted the wild *T. utriculata* plants growing along Jane's Scenic Drive. From January to March, Garden, Cage, and wild *T. utriculata* counts were made at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary. Data from all of these counts are still being organized and analyzed.



**Figure 3.** A large *Tillandsia utriculata* plant, put in a cage at the T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve last year, has been put into the forest this year, where it is releasing its seeds.

**Figure 4.** Volunteers Martha Pessaro and Kathy Mocko counting the *T. utriculata* plants growing in one of the Gardens at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary.



**Figure 2.** This is a Garden Structure designed by Mike and Margaret Simons at Lemon Bay Park that works very well for growing the tiniest of the *T. utriculata* plants.



At the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, we began experimentally setting up Gardens in March 2016. Our goal was to test 3 types of Garden Structures for growing tiny and small *T. utriculata* plants in 6 Gardens. A little over a year later, on 12 April 2017, we put the last Garden Structure in the Forest (Figure 5), for a total of 90 Garden Structures and 1,386 rescued tiny and small *T. utriculata* plants. We also started our first Recruitment Site (Figure 6) and continue to put out Trial Plants.

Iliana Moore completed the experiment testing *Beauveria bassiana*, an entomopathogenic fungus, to control the Mexican bromeliad weevil. Because of some problems with the experiment (the fungal solution that was applied was at 1/2 concentration on the first trial and was expired for the second trial), results were not conclusive. However, the first trial resulted in 19% weevil mortality, caused by the fungus, even at 1/2 concentration. As well, because these weevil larvae were in pineapple tops, the experiment shows that the fungus is able to attack weevil larva inside a host bromeliad. This is encouraging and warrants further studies.



**Figure 5. Volunteer Martha Pessaro hanging the last Garden Structure at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary.**



On 5 April 2017, the 3rd Annual Florida Bromeliad Conservation Working Group (formerly known as the Giant Air Plant Workshop) was held at Selby Botanical Garden (Figure 7). This was a gathering of scientists, land managers, and volunteers, who are working to save Florida's bromeliads. The meeting was energetic, optimistic, and productive, and new ideas and goals were made for saving Florida's bromeliads, to be met in the upcoming year.

Please visit our Web site at: <http://www.savebromeliads.com> or like us on Facebook at [facebook.com/SaveBromeliads](https://www.facebook.com/SaveBromeliads).

And please, if you can, make donations to the Al Muzzell Weevil Fund, managed by the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies (all funds are used for the conservation project and donations are tax deductible). You can make a donation at: [FCBS.org](http://FCBS.org).

#### Presentations

Cooper TM. 4 Jan 2017. Saving Florida's Bromeliads Conservation Project. Great Outdoors, Titusville, Florida.

Cooper TM. 25-28 Jan 2017. Birds and Bromeliads. 2017 Bird and Wildlife Festival. Titusville, Florida. Poster Presentation.

Cooper TM. 27-28 Jan 2017. Birds and Bromeliads. 2017 Bird and Wildlife Festival. Titusville, Florida.

Cooper TM. 15 Feb 2017. Saving Florida's Bromeliads Conservation Project. Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, Titusville, Florida.

Cooper TM. 3 Apr 2017. Saving Florida's Bromeliads Conservation Project. Lemon Bay Garden Club, Englewood, Florida.

Cooper TM. 5 Apr 2017. Saving Florida's Bromeliads Conservation Project. Florida Bromeliad Conservation Working Group, Sarasota, Florida.

Cooper TM. 6 Apr 2017. Saving Florida's Bromeliads Conservation Project. Rare Plant Task Force Meeting, Sarasota, Florida.



**Figure 6. Volunteer Madison Giuntoli spreading seed at the first Recruitment Site at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary.**



**Figure 7. Volunteers Donna Day and Ernie Winn greet people at the 3rd Annual Florida Bromeliad Conservation Working Group at Selby Botanical Garden.**



## Armchair Journeys Bromeliad Habitats on fcbs.org

By Karen Andreas

We are lucky in Florida to be able to grow so many bromeliads in our back yards and to co-exist with native bromeliads in the landscape. We are luckier even more to be able to visit bromeliads in their native habitats from the comfort of our homes, via the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies' website at fcbs.org.



Click on Bromeliad Habitats to embark on travels with the late Wally Berg (left) whose photographic essays on his journeys to Ecuador, Guatemala, El Salvador, Belize and Panama with his friends comprise a lasting legacy. View dusty roads, inaccessible cliffs (how did they get up there to get those bromeliads), stuck vehicles, crazy river crossings, rain forests, cloud forests, young Dennis Cathcart, the late John Anderson, food, flora and crawling fauna. It's all chronicled here.

Habitat photographs from the Bahamas, Bolivia, high altitude bromeliads from Columbia, Fakahatchee Strand and Paraguay are also on this page.

Here you will find the stunning pictures from Oscar Ribeiro whose ongoing journeys through Brazil chronicle the life and times of the habitats, plants and amazing creatures, ecology and loss of ecology. From the Mata Atlantica, to the Atlantic Coast, to Eastern Brazil to places so remote, so endangered, that these windows onto that habitat may be the only preservation that lasts.



Oscar's photography is so brilliant, so pristine that you feel you are only moments away from these destinations.

So get to know bromeliads a little better, through these generous friends sharing their own experiences at fcbs.org, Bromeliad Habitats.



Check out **What's New** on the FCBS website: Lisa Vinzant hybrids (left), photographs by Kosit Kaewkangwal, Val Miller, Greg Dauss, Neville Wood, Ron Schoenau, and Jay Thurrott.

Neo. 'Manuela'. Photo by Lisa Vinzant.



## TILLANDSIA UTRICULATA

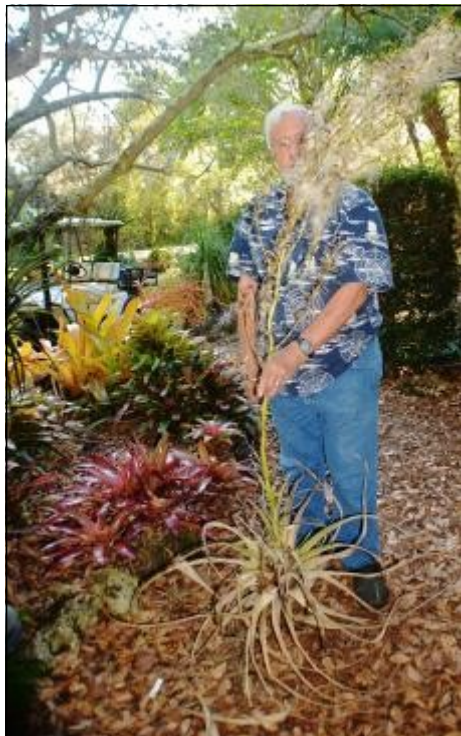
Tom Wolfe

In May of 2016, Carol wrote an article in the FCBS Newsletter about the *Tillandsia utriculata* appearing out of nowhere on a ligustrum tree by our front door: :



*“Have you ever had a stray dog or cat to take up at your house? They have a sixth sense that deep down somewhere you really like them so they hang around. Well this is the way a large Tillandsia utriculata attached itself to the ligustrum tree just outside our front door. You cannot miss seeing it daily. There are no other T. utriculatas on our property so we were surprised when this large specimen appeared and then sent a 6’ spike above the top of the tree.”*

We watched the 6’ bloom spike for almost a year. Finally, almost a year later the spike bloomed. It was laden down with hundreds of seeds. I carefully removed the *T. utriculata* and carefully pulled it through the tree limbs losing a lot of seeds in doing so.



Although the bloom spike was over 6 feet tall, the plant itself was not very big as many get twice that size.

We wrapped the spike in a towel to keep from losing seeds and headed for the greenhouse to plant them.

We prepared a piece of shade cloth about 4’ x 6’ and shook the spike, casting the seed over the shade cloth, and then watered the seeds, which we have





continued almost daily. After shaking the spike there were still lots of seeds, so I took the bloom into our cypress swamp and shook the remaining seeds onto the trees. Now we are playing the waiting game for the seeds to germinate. We'll let you know the results but we hope to have many of this native bromeliad germinate and grow on our property.

Photos by Carol Wolfe







## BROMELIADS INSIDE THE HOME

By Carol Wolfe



*Billbergia* Poquito Mas,  
*Till. ionantha*, and  
*Cryptanthus*

We love bromeliads inside and outside of our homes. In addition to their beauty in our landscapes and to the inside of our homes, they are good for our health!

Have you heard of volatile organic compounds (VOC)? In addition to mold and dust that pollute our indoor air quality, we are now concerned about VOC. It is found in products used everyday in our homes for cleaning, painting, nail polish, furniture polish, carpet, formaldehyde, dry cleaning and more. According to studies, our homes have three to five times more pollutants inside than outside. The EPA says indoor air pollution make our homes “sick” and may cause headache, allergies, respiratory tract irritations, dizziness, headache, eye, nose and throat irritation. When cleaning open windows and doors to allow fresh air inside.

Vadoud Niri and his team at State University of New York at Oswego looked for a cheap simple tool to remove VOCs. The answer was house plants. Using plants to remove chemicals from indoor air is called biofiltration. In addition to carbon dioxide, plants can take up gases such as benzene, toluene and other VOCs. NASA began studying this option in 1984 and found that plants could absorb these airborne compounds via their leaves and roots. In the studies, the plants were put into a sealed chamber containing specific concentrations of several VOCs. They then monitored the VOCs concentrations and noted which VOCs the plants took up, how quickly they removed the VOCs from the air and how much of the VOCs were ultimately removed by the end of the experiment.

Niri says, “Based on our results, we can recommend what plants are good for certain types of VOCs and for specific locations. To illustrate, the bromeliad plant was very good at removing (VOCs) in six out of eight studies-it was able to take up more than 80 percent of each of those compounds-over the twelve-hour sampling period.” In addition to the bromeliads naturally detoxing your home, the Spider plants, Jade plant, Caribbean Tree Cactus and the *Dracaena* made the top five list. Bromeliads are a great way to add color to your interior-escape. The bright flowers and gorgeous foliage will provide a wonderful splash of color for months at the time.



*Aec. penduliflora* x *A. politii*

Photo: Carol Wolfe

So bring some bromeliads indoors and start today breathing healthier air!

### References:

Info via websites:

<http://www.rd.com/health/wellness/plants-to-detoxify-your-home/>

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/pressroom/newsreleases/2016/august/selecting-the-right-house-plant-could-improve-indoor-air-animation.html>

This research was presented at a meeting of the American Chemical Society, Aug. 24, 2016



## 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**July 1 - 17, 2017 - 17 DAY ECUADOR Bromeliad Tour** Pamela Koide Hyatt, Tillandsia world expert, and Jose José M. Manzanares, author of two books on Bromeliads from Ecuador, will be in this incredible journey (Jose only last few days). This trip will combine the best of both Southern and Northern Ecuador. A must for anyone into Bromeliads. Mode: All inclusive, starting in Guayaquil, ending in Quito. Discounted Price: \$3950. All-inclusive except air fare. (Minimum 8) For additional information please contact ASAP Guillermo Rivera at [plantexpeditions@gmail.com](mailto:plantexpeditions@gmail.com)

### **August 4-5, 2017 Bromeliads by the Bay Extravaganza**

Clarion Hotel 813-971-4710, 2701 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL 33612

Ask for Bromeliad Extravaganza room rate; Rates \$75.00 sgl/dbl \$85.00 trp/quad

Complimentary hot breakfast included for hotel registrants. Free Parking.

Conference Registration \$100 includes Friday night Bar-B-Que buffet and Saturday night Banquet buffet. <http://www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org/news>



**August 19-20 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society Sale** - The Garden Club of Sanford (on 17-92, one block south of Lake Mary Blvd) In air-conditioned building. Huge selection of bromeliads in many genera, orchids, aroids, gingers, other tropical plants, gift baskets, hand crafted slat baskets in several sizes. Members will be available to answer your questions. You don't want to miss this one!

### **May 19, 20, 21, 2017 Bromeliad Society/Houston's 45th Annual Show & Sale**

held at Mercer Botanic Gardens 22306 Aldine Westfield Road, Humble, TX

### **October 20, 21, 22, 2017 Southwest Bromeliad Guild Show Dallas, Texas**

## 2018 Calendar

### **May 29 – June 3, 2018 BSI World Bromeliad Conference in San Diego, California**

Registration \$350 until 2/28/2017;

\$390 3-1-2017 to 5-1-2018;

\$425 at door

Paradise Point Resort \$184 + taxes for double occupancy per night



# You are invited to the 2017 Bromeliad Extravaganza

Friday, August 4, 2017, & Saturday, August 5, 2017  
& Sunday, August 6, 2017

## Clarion Hotel

2701 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL 33612

[www.clariontampa.com](http://www.clariontampa.com)

(813) 971-4710

Ask for Bromeliad Extravaganza Rate

\$75.00 for single/double

\$85.00 for triple/quad

Complimentary hot breakfast

Free Parking

Registration: \$100.00 per person

After July 25, 2017: \$110.00

Registration includes 2 full meals:

Friday Night Barbeque Buffet &

Saturday night Banquet Buffet

Saturday: Plant Sales 9 AM to 4 PM

Raffle, Silent auction

Seminars with guest speakers

Rare Plant Auction

Sunday: *Optional Bus Garden Tours \$12*

*8:30 AM to Noon - For those attending Garden Tours in their own vehicles there is no charge. Water, cold drinks and refreshments will be served at the Gardens.*

## Seminar Guest Speakers

Pam Koide Hyatt of Bird Rock Tropicals, California;

Dr. Larry Giroux of Fort Myers, FL, BSI Judge & Editor of The Cryptanthus Society Journal;

Bruce Holst, Taxonomist/Scientist and Director of Botany, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota;

Ken Stokes of Tampa, Bromeliad expert/grower

### For Registration Complete the Following:

Nametag # 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Nametag #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_ of registrations @ \$100 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_ bus tickets @\$12 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to BGTB and mail

to: Pam Slagg, Registrar

4315 W San Pedro St., Tampa, FL 33629

(813) 832-9481 [pamslagg@hotmail.com](mailto:pamslagg@hotmail.com)

For more information: [FCBS.org](http://FCBS.org) or

Tom Wolfe (813) 391-1542

email: [bromeliadsociety@juno.com](mailto:bromeliadsociety@juno.com)

[BromeliadGuildofTampaBay.org](http://BromeliadGuildofTampaBay.org);

[https://www.Facebook.com/](https://www.Facebook.com/groups/562988247096958/)

[groups/562988247096958/](https://www.Facebook.com/groups/562988247096958/)

**Check here for free Transportation to and from TIA airport will be provided by members of BGTB. Check circle above if you need transportation and we will contact you.**



## 2017 BROMELIAD EXTRAVAGANZA SPEAKERS

**PAMELA KOIDE HYATT  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER  
WORLD RENOWNED TILLANDSIA EXPERT**



Pamela Koide Hyatt, has been exploring and growing Bromeliads, with an emphasis on Tillandsias for more than half her life. Since starting Bird Rock Tropicals in 1981, Pamela has traveled extensively throughout Mexico, Central and South America in search of tillandsias. During these travels she has discovered more than a dozen species new to science as well as many more natural hybrids. Experiencing plants in habitat and growing for more than 35 years gives her a unique insight into this amazing genus.

Pamela soon began growing from seed and hybridizing tillandsias. It can take up to two years for the seed to be ready to harvest, and growing the plants to maturity can take anywhere from three to twenty years. Of the more than 3000 hybrids that were made, many have bloomed for the first time over the past few years.

One of these hybrids, *Tillandsia Samantha*, was nominated for 'Plant of the Year' at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show in 2012, and in 2013, *Tillandsia Samantha* won the 'Glass Tulip Award' in the category of houseplants. The Glass Tulip Award is one of the most prestigious awards in Horticulture awarded by FloraHolland.

Additionally, Pamela is an International Accredited Bromeliad Master Judge and has served as President and newsletter editors of both the San Diego Bromeliad Society and the North County Bromeliad Society. She has served as a Director of the Bromeliad Society International (BSI), and Publications Chairman for the BSI, and currently, the Editorial Advisory Board for the Journal of the Bromeliad Society (BSI). She recently completed nine years as a Trustee at the San Diego Botanic Garden.

In 1992 she contributed to the revision of the BSI *Cultural Manual* and in 1998, Pamela revised and compiled *A Bromeliad Glossary*, published by the Bromeliad Society International. Pamela has been a keynote speaker at the Australian Biennial Conference in 1998, 2003 (in New Zealand), 2007 and 2015, the Japanese Bromeliad Society in Tokyo, 2001, HortPark in Singapore 2015, the WBC Hawaii in 2014, and numerous local societies and plant clubs in the United States.

Pamela has consulted on a several different botanical projects. These include consulting not only at private gardens, but Botanical Gardens in Thailand, Singapore, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles and San Diego, as well as hotel installations at the Mirage, Bellagio and MGM in Las Vegas.

In 2014 Pamela published *Tilli-Cards*<sup>™</sup>, a set of 100 reference cards for species and hybrid tillandsias. In 2015, Pamela created and developed the first Application for IOS smart phones related to Tillandsias. The app, *Tilli-Cards*, is a reference guide to the identification and cultivation of tillandsia air plants. The app can be easily updated to include most species and many common hybrids.



**Dr. Lawrence Giroux**  
**Editor of the Meristem, the newsletter of Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society**  
**Editor of the Cryptanthus Society Journal**  
**Cryptanthus...Why That Name?**

Dr. Lawrence Giroux is retired from a 25 year long Family Medicine Practice in Southwest Florida.

Although he has been growing and studying bromeliads for 25 years, it was in 1991 when he acquired his first *Cryptanthus* and developed a special passion for



these plants. Dr. Larry as he is often referred to, has acquired one of the most diverse collection of *Cryptanthus* in the world. Besides growing *Cryptanthus* and many other bromeliads, he is an experienced exhibitor and hybridizer.

He is a long time member of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society, Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, the Bromeliad Society International and the Cryptanthus Society. He has held positions with all of these organizations and is currently the Editor of the Meristem, the newsletter of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society, the Editor of the Cryptanthus Society Journal and a past Regional Director of the Bromeliad Society International's Board of Directors.

Currently he is the Nominations Committee Chair for the BSI. He has held Chairs at several BSI WBC's and of International Cryptanthus Shows and was the Show Chairman of the BSI 18<sup>th</sup> WBC in Cairns, Australia.

He is an avid traveler, having explored Central America, South America, the Caribbean and the western regions of the Pacific and Southeast Asia.

Larry is an active Master BSI accredited Judge and instructor.

**Bruce Holst**  
**Marie Selby Botanical Garden, Sarasota, Florida**  
**Taxonomist/Scientist and**  
**Director of Botany**

Bruce Holst is presently working as a Taxonomist/Scientist and Director of Botany at the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota, Florida. He studies bromeliads and other floras of Belize, Venezuela and Florida. Bruce, his wife and children, live in Sarasota and he has been an active member of the Sarasota Bromeliad Society for many years.

Bruce has studied and collected plants of the American tropics for 35 years. He specialized on the floras of Belize, Venezuela and Florida. He is editor of the Gardens research journal, *Selbyana*, and former editor of the *Journal of the Bromeliad Society* and the *Flora of the Venezuelan Guayana*. He has led or participated in more than 20 international expeditions, most recently to Belize, French Guiana and Venezuela.

An historic expedition of a 425' sinkhole located in Belize may prove to reveal rare and possibly never-before-seen plants from the heart of the ancient Mayan civilization. Bruce Holst joined an international team for the first of several planned descents into the Sinkhole, one of the most biologically diverse and difficult to access natural environments in Belize. The 10-day expedition marked the first step in a year-long process to gather and document botanical specimens. The sinkholes in the area sit atop the estimated 540,000 square-foot Chiquibul Cave System, the largest in Belize and the longest in Central America. The entire region is a veritable treasure chest of botanical, geological, and archeological wonders.



**Kenneth Stokes**  
**Bromeliad Grower/Expert**  
**Bi and Multi-generic Bromeliads**

Kenneth Stokes is a life-long Floridian and has been involved in plant growing and collecting his whole life. He has made collecting trips to both Ecuador and Malaysian Borneo.



In his business life, he is a master fine furniture maker and a restorer of fine art and antiques. He is also the author of four literary novels.

As a hobby, he grows tropical plants on the grounds of his south Tampa home, including Bromeliads, incorporating examples from most of the cultivated genera. Kenneth joined the BGTB in 1994 and has participated in many BSI Shows, including three world conferences. He has held positions in both the SBS and BGTB and has presented horticultural programs for both societies.

Kenneth has a book on Bromeliads in the works. His research and work in preparation for the book, has also become material for programs. He likes his presentations to contain both informative and useful material for the Bromeliad enthusiast.

He has been a public speaker for all of his adult life, in religious, social, civic and educational circles. He utilizes actual plants he has grown as visual illustrations and teaching aids. His goal is to present information where every listener will take home something new with them learned in the presentation.

Bi and Multi-generic Bromeliads, of all the bromeliad hybrids that have been made, those with genetics of more than one genus, have more unique forms. Plants within one genus have similar forms, so when Neoregelias are crossed with plants within the Cryptanthus or Orthophytum genera, more than a slight variation occurs. Some can be spectacular, others are just duds. The special ones are continually propagated, while many less interesting hybrids fade into obscurity.

Kenneth will begin with the basics of hybridizing, then focus on Bromeliads that have parents with genetics from more than one genus by showing plants that are good examples.

\*\*\*\*\*

# **ADS NEEDED FOR EXTRAVAGANZA PROGRAM Calling all bromeliad clubs, vendors, and individuals**

**Program Ads for a Full Page Advertisement \$50**

**Half Page \$25.00, and Quarter Page/Business Card \$15**

**All Bromeliad Societies please place an ad in our program.**

**Send final copy and check payable to BGTB to:**

**Marilyn Byram, 21535 Northwood Dr., Lutz, FL 33549**

**(813) 361-9550 Email: [bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com)**



## BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SHOW



*Tillandsia Samantha* by Josefa Leon



*Catopsis berteroniana* by Karl Green



*Aec. nidularioides* by Josefa Leon



*Billbergia Carcoa* by Barbara Partagas



## BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SHOW



*Cryptanthus Red Star* by Barbara Partagas



*Vr. Josefa Leon* by Josefa Leon



*Billbergia Hallelujah* by Josefa Leon



*Till. tectorium* by Maureen Adelman





## BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SHOW



*Bill. Sangre* by Barbara Partagas



*Orthophytum roseum* by Karl Green



*Quesnelia marmorata* 'Tim Plowman' by Barbara Partagas



*Quesnelia marmorata* 'Tim Plowman' by Chip Jones



## BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SHOW



*Guzmania* Orange Crush by Josefa Leon



*Till. ionantha* 'Druid' by Robert Meyer



*Quesnelia marmorata* 'Tim Plowman' Decorative Container by Cheng Manlee



*Vr. Ospinae* var *gruberi* cv 'Hawaiian Magic' by Josefa Leon



# BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SHOW



**Neo. Shelldance** by Josefa Leon



**Artistic Arrangement** by Josefa Leon



**Cryptanthus Durrell x C. Richard Lum** by Barbara Partagas



**Cannistrum seidelaniana** by Josefa Leon



**Aec. Delmar**  
For Exhibit Only  
Bullis Bromeliads

Photos by Carol Wolfe



**Aec. Lava**  
For Exhibit Only  
Bullis Bromeliads



## BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SHOW



**ARTIST-Tickling Tillandsias**  
by Josefa Leon



*Neo. pendula var brevifolia* by Josefa Leon



*Neo. Big Mac Special* by Chip Jones



*Aec. pineliana* by Karl Green

Photos by Carol Wolfe



# BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SHOW



*Crypt. Thriller* by Barbara Partagas



*Aec. orlandiana* collection For exhibit only Bullis Bromeliads



*Aec. Blue Tango* by Barbara Partagas  
Best cut inflorescence



*Till. capitata* Susie by Peter Kouchalakos



*Bill. viridiflora* by Stephanie LaRusso

Photos by Carol Wolfe



For Exhibit Only Bullis Bromeliads



# BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SHOW



*Dyckia choristaminea* x *D. dawsonii* by Barbara Partagas



*Aechmea Inca* by Skye



*Deuterocohnia brevifolia* by Chip Jones



*Aec. nidularioides* by Chip Jones



*Hohenbergia Karla* by Alex Bello



*Deuterocohnia lorenziana ziana* by Chip



*Neo. Lorena Lector* by Carl Bauer



*Neo. Charm* by Carl Bauer



*Aec. Little Harve* by John Severson

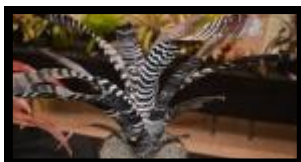
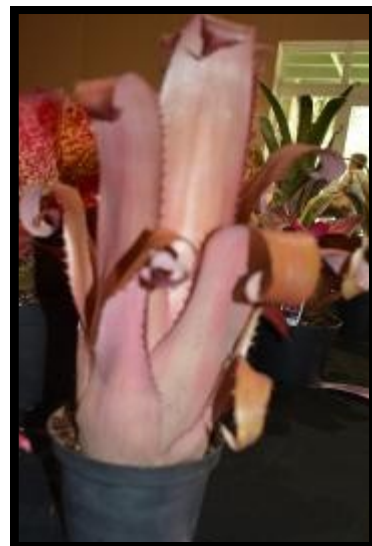
Photos by Carol Wolfe



# BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SHOW



**BSSF Bromeliad Auctioneer Peter Kouchalacos**



Photos by Carol Wolfe



**Photo by Calandra Thurrott**

Sandy's Roth BSSF Celebration Party for members, show workers, Judges and guests. Sandy has a great reputation as a Hostess serving delicious food as well as providing a lovely garden for her guest to enjoy!



**Photo by Calandra Thurrott**



# BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SHOW

## Judged Art Show



Photos by Carol Wolfe





## Pitcairnia: A Shady Bromeliad

### by Karen Andreas

The Pitcairnia was the earliest bromeliad to evolve and is the second largest genus, after Tillandsia. There are more than 450 identified species and varieties with a range from Cuba and Mexico to Argentina; the largest concentration is in Columbia, Brazil and Peru. The only Pitcairnia ever discovered outside of the Americas is *Pitcairnia feliciana* (right), found in Guinea, Africa.

In general, this bromeliad thrives in areas of shade and moisture. It grows epiphytically (as an air plant), can be saxicolous (growing on rocks) but mostly is terrestrial. Many species have long, narrow grass-like leaves; some have short, wide leaves; some species (*heterophylla*, for example) grow both. The flowers range from red to orange to blue and, although the flowers are short lived, the inflorescences often last for several months.

In his Bromeliads for the Contemporary Garden, Andrew Steens wrote that “this genus is a collection of oddballs, as it contains many species that don’t conform to our expectations of what a bromeliad should look or act like.” For instance, some Pitcairnia are deciduous, as in the case of *P. heterophylla* whose inflorescence emerges first, the leaves following after the start of the rainy season. Compare the inflorescence of *P. xanthocalyx* with that of *P. tabuliformis*, and you cannot help but wonder what they are doing in the same genus. Pitcairnia are often overlooked as a landscape plant. They thrive in the ground, especially in shady or semi-shady conditions and around moisture. Plant them around a fountain or a birdbath, and they will produce vigorous, healthy growth. They need room for their roots, so give them plenty of space or plant in a large pot.

The next time you are pondering what to do in a particularly shady area of your yard, consider a Pitcairnia.



*P. feliciana*. Photo by P. Bak, from Die Bromelie, 1/2007.



*P. tabuliformis*, an atypical member of this genus, is from Chiapas, Mexico. Its numerous leaves form a rosette that flattens at blooming. The flowers rise from the center of the bromeliad and are a brilliant orange-red color. This Pitcairnia does not like wet leaves; provide moisture from below, as well as watering the soil only. Do not plant this species in the ground. It is a smaller member of this genus and does best in a pot. Photo by Michael Andreas.



*P. chiriquensis* (above) comes from Chiriqui, Panama, where it lives by waterfalls. This bromeliad loves moisture. Photo by Michael Andreas.



*P. domingensis* (right) is both saxicolous (growing on rocks) and epiphytic (growing as an air plant); it is found on the coastal rocks and woods, from sea level to higher altitudes in the Dominican Republic. Photo by Ken Marks.



*P. heterophylla* (above and right) is found from southern Mexico and the West Indies to Venezuela and Ecuador, generally growing in wet and shady locations. Its flowers appear first in the spring, the foliage follows. While it makes a nice clump, beware of the nasty spines at the base of the plant. This *Pitcairnia* can adapt from full shade to full sun. The habitat picture above left was taken by Wally Berg in Ecuador. Photo on the right is by Jarka Rehak.



To see Bromeliads in Habitat, Travels with Wally Berg and friends, use this link <http://fcbs.org/>



[pictures/habitat/ecuador.htm](http://pictures/habitat/ecuador.htm) . More Pitcairnia photographs below!

*P. flammea* (above) grows in wet conditions in the woods and on rocks in southern Brazil. Its leaves are spineless and grow 2 to 3 feet long. This bromeliad grows well in shade. Photo by Oscar Ribeiro/



Bromeliario Imperialis. *P. smithiorum* (right) honors South Floridians Sam and Hattie Lou Smith; this picture was taken in the Miami gardens of Ed and Moyna Prince. Photo by Michael Andreas

*P. xanthocalyx* (left) clumps readily, loves moisture and makes good ground cover. The leaves of this bromeliad are green on top, silver on the bottom. Photo by Ken Marks.

Pitcairnia hybrids abound. What follows above and below are but samples of the variety in this genus.

*P. 'Beaujolais'*, (center), a hybrid by Jim Irvin, used *P. smithiorum* (above) as one of its parents in the cross. Photo by Jim Irvin. *P. 'Stardust'* (right) is a Bob Spivey hybrid. Photo by Bob Spivey.



P. 'Stephen Hoppin', honors long time Cryptanthus Society officer, director, supporter, Cryptanthus promoter and hybridizer and Floridian Stephen Hoppin. A cultivar by Sam Smith using *smithiorum* as one of its parents. Photos by Sam Smith.



P. 'Bud Curtis' is a Jim Irvin hybrid, also using *smithiorum* as one of the parents. Note the silvery underleaf. Photos by Jim Irvin.

All pictures are from the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies' website at [fcbs.org](http://fcbs.org). To see more Pitcairnia pictures – as well as other genera – visit the Photo Index on that site.



# FCBS SPEAKER LIST

- Bruce Holst, Director of Botany at Marie Selby Gardens. "Nohoch Ch'en Chiquibul National Park Expedition Belize"
- Dr. Terrie Bert, Scientist, "Growing the Jewels of the New World"  
Surveying the Ultimate Wonders - The "S" to "W" Bromeliads  
"P" – part 2 of "The Outstanding & Ostentatious and Particularly Picturesque"  
"Growing Uncommon Bromeliad Genera"
- Eileen Hart, Master Gardener,  
"Bromeliad General Culture"  
"ABC's of Growing Most Common Genera"
- Ray Lemieux, "Terrestrial Bromeliads"  
"All Things Bromeliad"  
"Growing Bromeliads From Seed"
- Tom Wolfe, "What the BSI Means to Us"  
"Unique Ways to Display Bromeliads"  
"Aechmeas Where the Growing is Easy"  
"Remembering Roberta Burle Marx"  
"Basic Bromeliad Culture"
- Jay Thurrott, "2016 WBC Houston, Texas"  
"Highlights of BSI World Conference in Hawaii"
- Dennis Cathcart, "Bromeliads on the Rocks"  
"Bromeliads in the Wilderness"
- Teresa Cooper, "Saving Florida's Bromeliads"
- Mike Michalski, Miami, "Hybridizing Bromeliads"
- Dr. Howard Frank, "Zika virus is not transmitted by bromeliad-dwelling mosquitoes in Florida"
- John Hanson, Paradise Nursery, Naples, Photos of his Nursery
- Brian Marsland, Exotica Tropicals, The Tropical Garden
- Robert Nelson, Out of the Box
- Alton Lee, "Bromeliad Royalty; the Vrieseas"  
"Bromeliad Names: Why Is It Called That?"
- Nick Bethmann, "All About Aechmea Orlandiana, the history, the controversies and the great cultivars"
- Jon Hanson, Bromeliad Paradise, Naples, FL
- Bruce McAlpin, Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society and BSSF member, "10 Magic Rules for Bromeliads"
- Peter Kouchalakos, "Steve Correale's hybrids"
- Andy Siekkinen, "Exploring the Wonders of Mexico"
- Brian Weber, "Plant Naming Clinic and New Bromeliad Offerings Behind the Scenes Gossip About Bromeliads"
- Guillermo Rivera, "Bromel Program or Travelogue on Plants in Columbia"
- FECBS, "The A,B,C's of Bromeliads"
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- Jack Dunlop, "Honey Bees, the Great Pollinator"
- Rick Hunter, Ph.D., "Zika Prevention Measures for Home Gardeners"
- Marty Folk, "Why Bromeliads?"
- Darlene Bradshaw, "Tillandsia: A Perennial Favorite"
- Dave Johnston, "Billbergias"  
"Bromeliad Jeopardy"  
"Name That Bromeliad" Game Show
- Mike O'Leary, "Ten Reasons you should grow Bromeliads", "Which Genus is KING?"
- Kenneth Stokes, "Creative Ways to Incorporate your New Bromeliads into your Garden"  
"Overcoming Bromeliad Defects" & "When to Clump/Divide"
- George Aldrich, "Costa Rica...Coast to Coast...Border to Border"



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**Bromeliads Galore - Dave Johnston**  
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Home: (727) 544-9187; cell: (727) 481-5962;  
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Monday through Friday; all day Saturday and Sunday.

**Color Zone Tropicals - Grant Groves**  
17936 W. Phil C. Peters Rd, Winter Garden 34787  
**(The nursery did not move; only the address has  
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**7:00 AM–5:00 PM Monday-Friday After 3 PM  
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**Jungle Gems - Marty Baxley**  
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